New emission norms in Delhi

4696. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are working out new emission norms in the capital city Delhi;

(b) if so, the brief details thereof; and

(c) the time-frame within which the new emission norms would be implemented in the capital city Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Euro-III emission norms, as provided in Auto Fuel Policy have been introduced in 11 mega cities including Delhi from April 1, 2005 for both petrol and diesel driven new vehicles, except 2 & 3 wheelers. For In-use vehicles revised Pollution Under Control (PUC) system has been introduced in the country including Delhi from October 2004.

Task Force on the status of tigers in Wild life parks

4697. SHRI R.P. GOENKA:
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on the initiative of Hon'ble Prime Minister, CBI has been asked to probe missing tigers from Sariska Tiger Reserve and other sanctuaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a special task force has been formed to look into the management of tiger reserves;

(d) whether CBI and the task force submitted their reports; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRJ NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been mandated to undertake an enquiry on disappearance of tigers from the Sariska Tiger Reserve of Rajasthan and not in other sanctuaries.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The Special Investigation Team of the Central Bureau of Investigation, in their preliminary assessment report, has indicated that there is no evidence of the presence of tiger in Sariska and the entire population seems to have become extinct primarily because of poaching. They have also informed that since July, 2002, at least 2-3 organized networks of poachers were involved in poachng of tigers and leopards in the tiger reserve. The short-term and long-term recommendations of the report is given in the enclosed Statement (See below) have been acted upon. The Task Force would be submitting its report within three months of its constitution *(w.e.f.* 19th April, 2005).

Statement

Recommendations from the Central Bureau of Investigation

Short-Term

(i) With the consent of the State Governments of Rajasthan and Delhi, the CBI should urgently take over investigation of Sariska Tiger Reserve crime No. 11/91 dated 15.03.2005,45/91 dated 11.03.2005,11/92 dated 15.03.2005,11/93 dated 15.03.2005 and Kamla Market PS, New Delhi FIR No. 82/2005 dated 31.01.2005. Any other case arising out of incidents of poaching shall also be registered and investigated by CBI for which a general consent may be given by the State Governments.

(ii) Extensive search of all the villages within the Tiger Reserve areas should be conducted for recovery of steel traps, guns and other equipments, used for killing wild animals.

(iii) An alert may be issued to all the Tiger Reserves about the *modus operandi* otthe poachers and for recovery of such steel traps, wherever possible.

(iv) Searches may be conducted in all possible places where steel traps are being manufactured and supplied to the poachers.

(v) The local Police should be sensitized and their active participation ensured in anti-poaching enforcement operations, in association with Forest Department staff.

(vi) Provisions of Section 34 of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 which requires every gun licence holder residing within 10 kms. area of the Sanctuary, to apply to the Chief Wildlife Warden, for registration should be strictly enforced.

(vii) The incumbency profile of the staff of Sariska Tiger Reserve should be analysed and transfer of those who have stayed long enough or are suspected to have developed vested interests, should be ordered.

(viii) The forest guards should be supplied proper uniform, lathis and other necessary equipments.

(ix) Anti-poaching Squads should be constituted in each range, consisting of at least 1/4 regular armed Policemen.

Long-Term

(x) An administrative overhaul of the Sariska Tiger Reserve by recruiting younger field staff and training the staff in enforcement activities.

(xi) More than 50% staff of the Tiger Reserve are work charge employees who were originally recruited as casual labourers for plantation of trees. There is need to increase the number of regular employees of the Tiger Reserve by recruiting more number of Forest Guards to cover inaccessible areas and to maintain effective watch against continuous human intervention.

(xii) The inflow of tourists and vehicular traffic needs to be controlled and regulated. As already directed *vide* letter dated 09.04.2003 of Director, Project Tiger, in place of open jeeps and smaller vehicles, medium sized buses with closed bodies and sliding windows should be used for the pilgrims.

(xiii) Immediate action should be taken to get a favourable judicial order pertaining to use of by-pass already constructed, to avoid increased vehicular traffic on State Highway No. 13.

(xiv) A time-bound programme for relocation of villages within the National park area should be taken up while return of relocated villagers to original settlement areas should be prevented.

(xv) There is no possibility of Tigers relocating to Sariska because of absence of a fringe population and link with any tiger habitat. Hence after implementation of the short-term measures suggested

above, there should be a programme for reintroduction of tigers which should be executed under the aegis of a scientific body.

(xvi) The SIT ovserved that there is no scientific monitoring programme, because of which the park authorities failed to track the dwindling population. Hence, it is recommended that scientific monitoring protocol should be implemented in respect of habitat, prey and predator. The park management should do periodic assessment of all the recorded data atleast on a bimonthly basis.

National Wild Life Crime Bureau

†4698. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to set up a National Wild Life Crime Bureau;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Proposal to set up a Wildlife Crime Control Bureau under the Ministry of Environment and Forests has been approved by National Board for Wildlife. The process of establishing the Bureau is under way.

(b) The Bureau will be a multi-disciplinary organization having professionals drawn from various enforcement agencies. The objectives of the bureau are—

(i) To gather and analyze intelligence related to organized wildlife crime activities and to disseminate the same to State and Regional Enforcement Agencies for swift action to apprehend the criminals.

(ii) To develop infrastructure and capacity for scientific and professional investigation into wildlife crimes and assist State Governments to ensure better success of cases related to wildlife crimes.

(iii) To act as a multi agency unit with full time officers from various organizations like Police, DRI, CBI, IB, ITBP, BSF, Customs and the Forest and Wildlife Departments.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.